

DRASNIN PRODUCTIONS, INC.

April 7, 1991

Mr. Ma Yuanhe
Deputy Director
Foreign Affairs Department
Ministry of Radio, Film and Television
P.O. Box 4501
Beijing
The Peoples Republic of China

Dear Mr. Ma:

I welcome your recent fax message regarding the public television documentary film project and I look forward eagerly to making arrangements to proceed.

As you know, it is extremely difficult to anticipate or specify everything we might like to do, or to know from this distance what might be possible. Therefore, I offer this as a preliminary "working list" of possibilities in each of the cities mentioned in my earlier letter. As always, I would also welcome any advice or suggestions that you may have to offer. And, of course, I hope also that there will be a certain amount of flexibility in any of the locations we visit.

I. Beijing.

(1) The new Beijing skyline: office buildings (for example, CITIC); hotels (for example, The Palace); and apartment houses.

(2) Private Sector: Qian Men (for example, the Big Bowl of Tea Corporation); Zhong Guan Cun in the Hai Dian district (electronics companies, for example); research and development companies (the information industry).

(3) General street scenes and everyday life.

(4) Mobility of the labor force.

(5) Popular music, from Karoake to pop music.

(6) Current university life: Beijing University and People's University.

(7) The training of young party cadres, for example the Central Party School.

(8) Media, television, print and bookstores (for example, The China Daily; the TV series "Aspirations"; and writers (for example, Liu Yazhou, who was at Stanford University in 1986; and

Zhang Xinxin, who also was in the United States and who has written about a cross-section of Chinese society). We may have additional suggestions, as well.

II. Xian and Yanan.

(1) Xian: 1) Historic sights, especially a hilltop near Xian Yang where we can see the hills of the Han and Tang tombs;

2) The Wei River;

3) Writers (for example, there is a woman poet who writes in the traditional "Yellow Earth" peasant style, a member of the Shanxi Writers' Association; Zhang Xianliang - would it be possible for him to come to Xian ?);

4) The film studio;

5) The Kadan Model Training School;

6) Street scenes and everyday life.

(2) Yanan: 1) Zao Yuan and/or Yang Jialing, historic sites of the Yanan period;

2) The university;

3) Peasant villages along the Yan River;

4) Folk Music of northern Shanxi, for example the An Sai peasant drum dance.

5) Street scenes and everyday life.

III. Chengdu.

1) The new city and the old, cobblestone streets; the merchants and market life;

2) Du Jiang Yan, the 2000-year-old water system and peasant life in the surrounding area;

3) Teahouses, and People's Park;

4) Sichuan University;

5) Du Fu Cao Tang, site where the Tang poet lived;

6) Street scenes and everyday life.

IV. Guangzhou.

the labor market; 1) Commercial life including joint ventures and

2) Rural enterprise;

3) Zhong Shan University;

4) Seven Star Crags;

5) Street scenes and everyday life.

I hope this is at least a satisfactory beginning. I will try to be more specific as soon as possible. I will also send you the names of the crew as soon as I have them.

I hope that the crew could arrive in China on or about Saturday, June 1. I would like to arrive, with an assistant, a few days earlier, about May 27.

Again, please let me know what more you need and by when. I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully yours,

Irv Drasnin

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